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NAMAD

HIDDEN
IN
VIEW
PART II



THE EYES OF THE
NEEDLE!

IRON MAN
1963

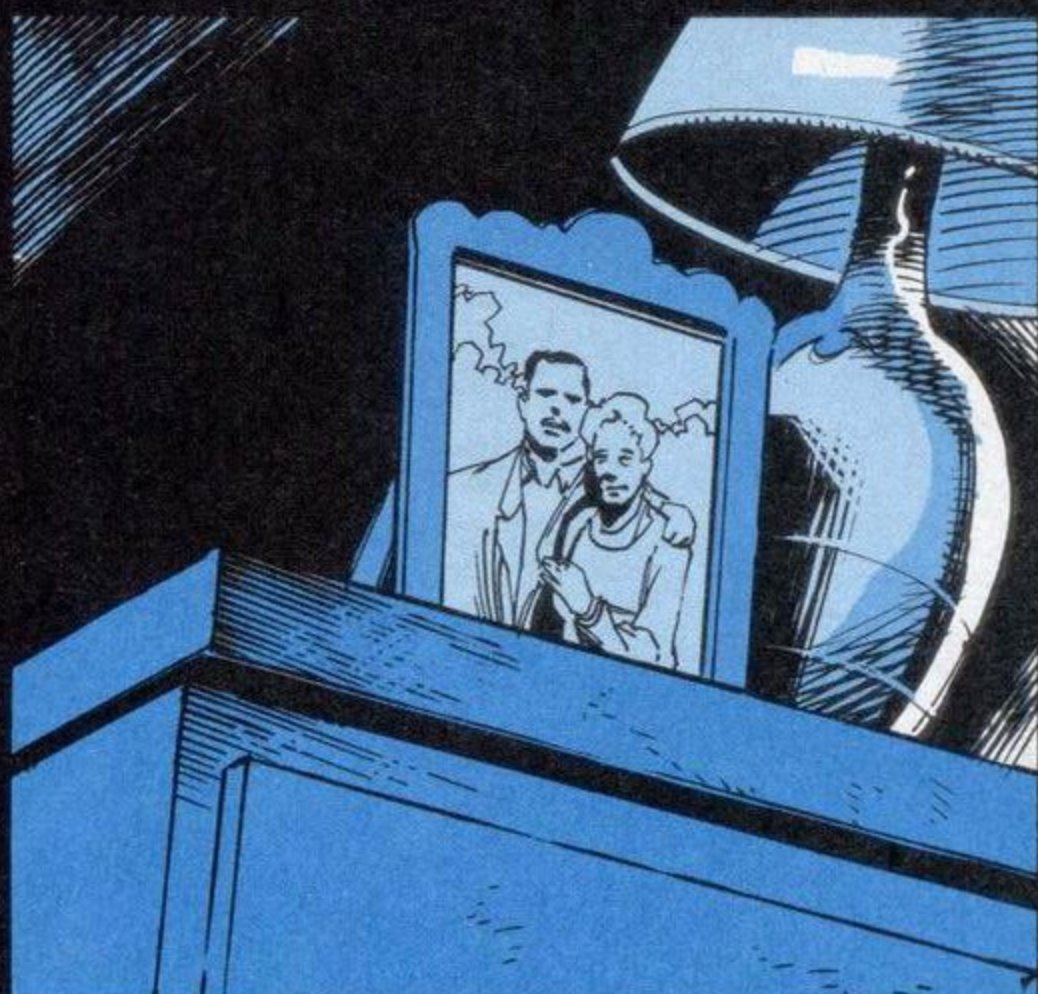
1993

OLIFFE & MCKENNA

Jack Monroe. A failed super soldier. A fallen super hero. Wandering the highways and byways of this vast land, Monroe tries to discover himself, by discovering America.

Stan Lee presents

NOMAD

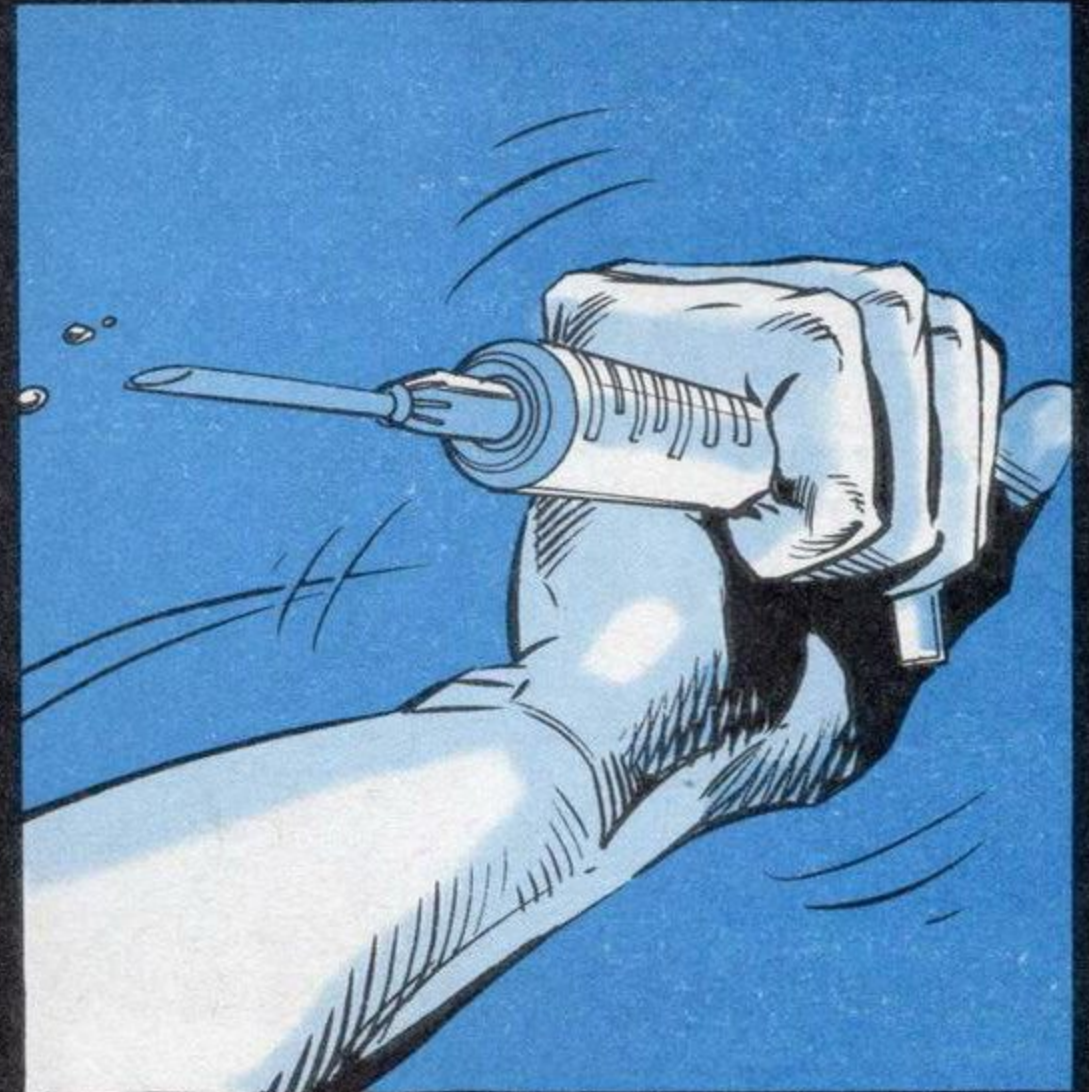


HIDDEN IN VIEW Part Two

**"If It Weren't
For Love."**

By
**Fabian Nicieza
&
Pat Olliffe**

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I'VE BEEN IN DALLAS FOR FIVE WEEKS. WORKING A CONSTRUCTION JOB, MAKING A LITTLE CASH, TAX FREE.

STASHING A LITTLE AWAY FOR BUCKY'S COLLEGE EDUCATION.

I LEFT FT. WORTH IN A HURRY TRYING TO AVOID ASSAULT CHARGES FOR BREAKING A RADIO DJ'S JAW.

BUT TROUBLE FOLLOWED ME. A WOMAN IN FT. WORTH WHO WAS INJECTING MEN WITH THE HIV VIRUS HAS BROUGHT HER SHOW HERE.

THREE MEN IN FIVE WEEKS. NO CORROBORATING DESCRIPTION. TO ONE SHE'S A BLONDE, TO ANOTHER BRUNETTE.

THE MEDIA CAUGHT ON REAL QUICK. THEY CALLED HER "THE NEEDLE."



NOW IT'S THE PEOPLE'S TURN. PROTESTING THE FACT THIS PSYCHO IS STILL OUT THERE.

A CROWD OF ALL RACES, BOTH GENDERS AND ALL PREFERENCES.

I GUESS IT'S IN EVERYONE'S BEST INTEREST TO STOP THIS KIND OF DIVISIVE ACTIVITY.

AND I FEEL TOO DETACHED TO GET INVOLVED. CASUAL SEX ISN'T SOMETHING I NORMALLY WORRY ABOUT--BUT EVEN LESS NOW--

HARD TO BELIEVE, BUT I SEEM TO HAVE ENDED UP WITH A STEADY GIRLFRIEND.

MR. MONROE--?

AND I DON'T MEAN BUCKY, MY DAUGHTER. BY-DEFAULT, EITHER.

JACK-- I JUST FINISHED UP A VARIETY OF TESTS.

DA-DA FWATH THATH--!

WE'LL GET THEM OFF TO THE LAB FOR RESULTS.

I KNOW I WAS RECOMMENDED UNDER THE STRICTEST OF CONFIDENCE, JACK--

--BUT DO YOU MIND IF I ASK A QUESTION--

--WHY THE DOMINO MASK?

TO PROTECT HER SECRET IDENTITY.

DR. FELISA SOTO. WHEN I WAS IN FT. WORTH, A DOCTOR WHO WORKED WITH THE NATIONWIDE STREET DWELLERS CALLED THE UNDERGROUNDERS, TOLD ME I SHOULD TAKE BUCKY TO SEE HER.

BUCKY'S MOTHER WAS A CRACK-ADDICTED TEEN PROSTITUTE. DR. SOTO IS ONE OF THE BEST PEDIATRICIANS IN DALLAS. DO THE ARITHMETIC.

DOC--WHY AREN'T THE COPS DOING ANYTHING TO FIND THIS NEEDLE WOMAN?

WHAT CAN THE POLICE DO, JACK? STOP PEOPLE FROM HAVING SEX?

EITHER THIS WOMAN HAS TO DECIDE TO STOP FOR HERSELF--OR ONE OF HER INTENDED VICTIMS HAS TO STOP HER.

THIS MIGHT BE A CASE THAT'S JUST A LITTLE TOO TOUGH FOR THE COPS TO HANDLE. AND IF NOT THE COPS, THEN WHO?

IF THIS WERE A MOVIE, THE SOUNDTRACK WOULD SWELL.

WHEN SHOULD I COME BACK FOR THE TEST RESULTS?

THEY'RE GOING UP-TOWN TO THE LAB--ROUTINE TAKES TWICE AS LONG--WE'LL CALL YOU IN A COUPLE OF WEEKS.

OUTSIDE, THE PROTEST IS ABOUT TO TURN INTO A RIOT.

ABSURD. TWO SIDES WHO WANT THE SAME THING ARE ABOUT TO FIGHT OVER IT.

BACK IT UP! BACK UP!!

THE COPS WANT THIS WOMAN TO KEEP ON KILLING, DON'T THEY?!

YEAH!!

'COURSE THEY DO -- HELPS THEM GET RID OF THE "SOCIAL DEVIANTS"!

PUBLIC ACTION

MAKES THEIR JOBS EASIER, DON'T IT?

AND EVEN BETTER, SOME IDIOT WITH A MEGAPHONE INSTIGATING THIS ENTIRE MESS.

WELL, IT'S TIME TO TELL THE FASCIST SYSTEM WE WON'T LIE BACK AN' TAKE IT!!

FIGHT BACK!! FIGHT NOW!!

HORNSHOOE??!

MY GIRL-FRIEND.

STOP N
ED



RIGHT AROUND
COMMERCE
STREET, HORSE-
SHOE STARTS
SHAKING LIKE
A CHIHUAHUA
ON A CAFFEINE
RUSH.

WHERE
IS IT--?!

DON'T TELL ME--
YOU FORGOT TO
TAKE IT
AGAIN?

TWENTY MINUTES
LATER WE HIT
OUR ROACH
MOTEL ON
DEEP ELLUM.

S-SO--
SUE ME--!

YOU USED TO
BE A NURSE--
AND YOU'RE A
DIABETIC--

--AND YOU'RE
ALWAYS FORGETTING
TO TAKE YOUR
INSULIN SHOT--

--AND THE BEST
YOU CAN DO IS
"SO SUE ME"?

I MEAN, WHAT
IS IT WITH YOU
ANYWAY?

I'M A TROUBLE-
MAKER, JACKIE--
YOU KNOW
THAT.

I LIKE TO
LIVE LIFE ON
THE **EDGE**.

OR OVER IT. MAYBE
THAT'S WHAT I FIND
SO INTERESTING
ABOUT HER.

I FINALLY FOUND A
WOMAN WHO REMINDS
ME OF **ME**.

A DRUG REHABILITATION
CLINIC OUTSIDE OF
MARSEILLES, FRANCE...



GOOD
VERY, VERY
GOOD.

YOU ARE
ALMOST
READY.

TO KILL
JACK
MONROE...

TO GET MY
BABY GIRL BACK,
M'SEH EPLURER?





WASHINGTON,
D.C....

I DISAGREE
WITH YOU ON THIS
ONE, HUGH, I
HAVE TO SAY.



PLAIN AND
SIMPLE. POLAR
EXTREMES.

AND IF YOU
WANT A FIGHT
OVER IT, YOU'LL
GET ONE.

I DON'T WANT
TA FIGHT WITH
YOU, BART--

--THOUGH AH
KNOW WHEN IT
COMES TA YOU,
AH'LL GET ONE
NO MATTER
WHAT AH SAY.



YOU CAN'T WIN THIS
ONE, HUGH. YOU WON'T
GET THE VOTE TO CLEAR
THE FLOOR. I'LL MAKE
SURE OF THAT.



BART, THERE'S
MORE TA LIFE
THAN GETTIN'
YOAHH BILLS
PASSED THROUGH
THE SENATE.

FOR YOAHH SAKE,
AH JUST HOPE
YOU NEVER LEARN
HOW MUCH
MORE...

IT'S THAT
SON OF YOURS
AGAIN, ISN'T IT
HUGH?



HOW DIFFICULT IT MUST
BE TO HAVE SUCH A--
DEGENERATE--SKELETON
IN YOUR CLOSET.



GIVE ROSE
MY BEST,
HUGH...

...AND DON'T
FIGHT ME ON
THIS BILL...

...YOU'LL END
UP AS MUCH A
LOSER AS
YOUR SON.

THE DALLAS NIGHTCLUB
SCENE IS THE SAME AS IT
IS IN EVERY OTHER CITY
ACROSS THE COUNTRY--

--PEOPLE WITH MONEY
TO *BURN* AND PLENTY
TO *LEARN*--

--GYRATING THEIR BODIES TO
THE STACCATO POUNDING OF
A DRUM MACHINE--

--PASSIONLESS IN
THE PRESSING OF
THEIR FLESH AS THEY
LOSE THEMSELVES
TO THE BEAT--

--LOOKING FOR
ONE NIGHT'S
WORTH OF
PLEASURE--

--LIVING ONE
HEARTBEAT AT
A TIME.

MAYBE THAT'S WHY
THE NEEDLE
FRIGHTENS THEM
SO MUCH...

THE POISON SHE PUMPS
THROUGH THEIR VEINS IS
ALL ABOUT THE BEAT.

IT IS A DEATH
WHICH COMES
ONE HEARTBEAT
AT A TIME --

--GIVING THEM NO CHOICE
BUT TO LIVE FOR THE NEXT
BEAT TO COME--

--AND THE
BEAT AFTER
THAT--

--AND THE
ONE AFTER
THAT--

--BECAUSE THEY ALL KNOW
THERE MAY NOT BE ONE AFTER
IT...

PRAKKA KOW PRAKKA KOW PRAKKA KOW PRAKKA KO

WHERE THE
905#0 IS
SHE ?!

PRRRRRRAAAAAPPPPTTT



THE \$%#@ KILLED ME!

FOLLOWED ME INTO THE TOILET--

--SHIMMYIN' UP TO ME LIKE SKIN ON A SNAKE--

--AND THEN SHE STABS ME WITH SOMETHIN'!!



THAT \$%#@ WITCH WAS THE NEEDLE!!

PRRAAPPT



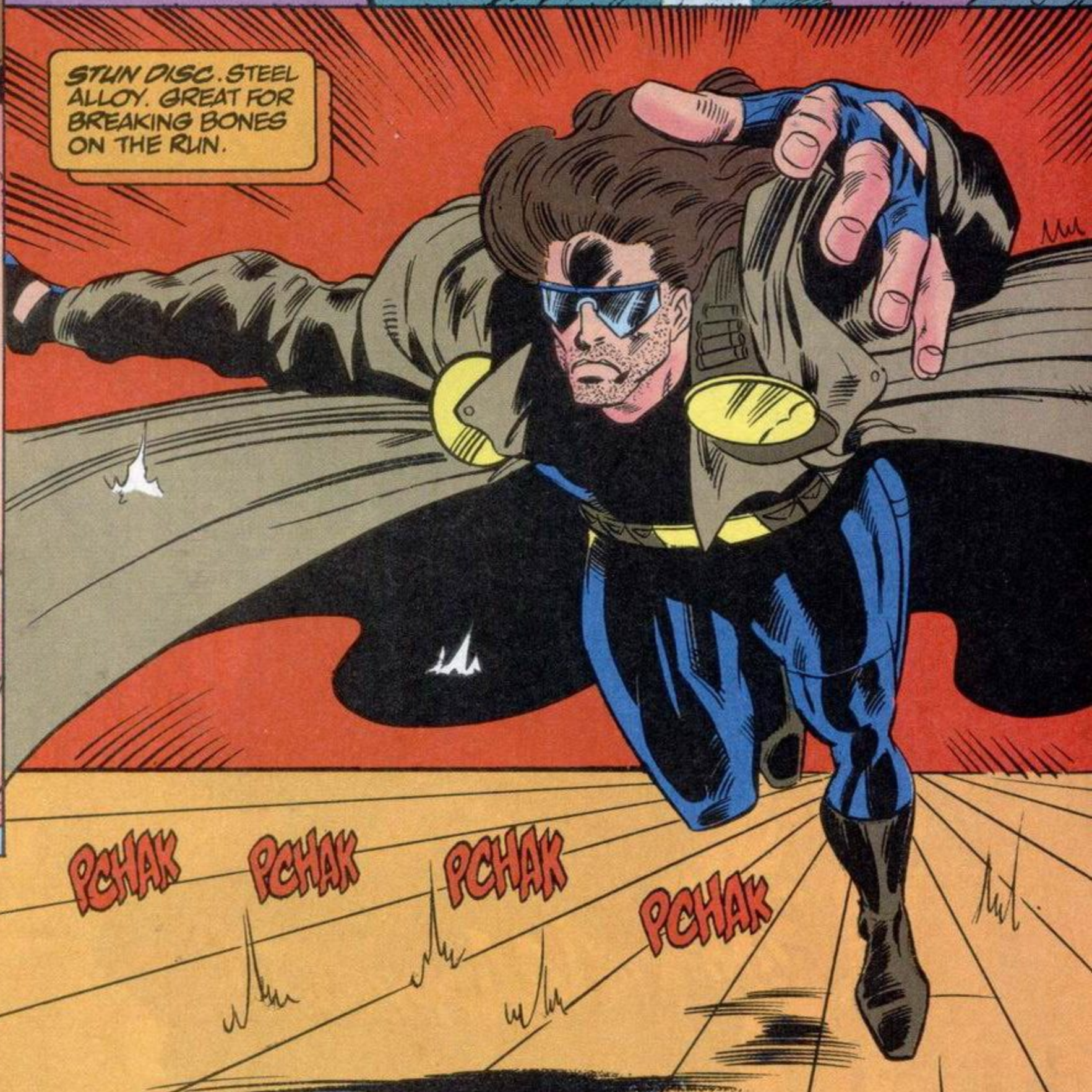
LET'S SEE, WE GOT THE TRIFECTA HERE-- STABBED, SHOT--

KCHAKT

--AND NOW BLUDGEONED!

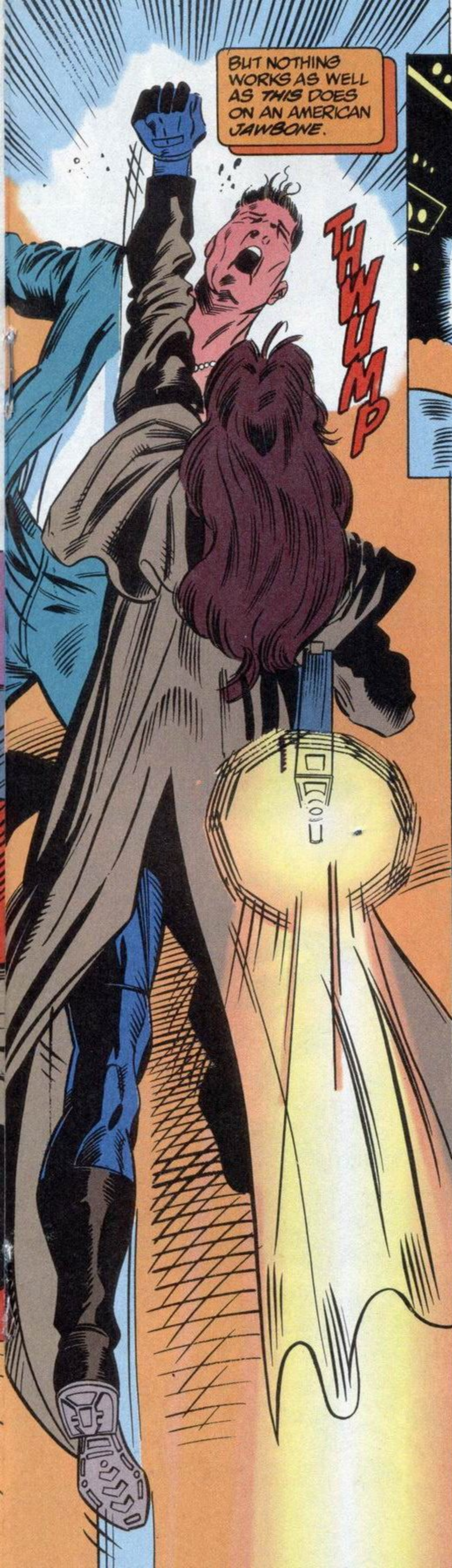


UH--I-- UH--



STUN DISC. STEEL ALLOY. GREAT FOR BREAKING BONES ON THE RUN.

PCHAK PCHAK PCHAK PCHAK



BUT NOTHING WORKS AS WELL AS THIS DOES ON AN AMERICAN JAWBONE.

THWUMP



OR THIS ON AN AMERICAN RIB CAGE.

KARUMP



THAT'S THE PROBLEM WITH THIS COUNTRY--SUBSTANDARD BUILDING MATERIALS.

CRASHT



SHE SMILED-- SAYS "DON' WORRY-- AH'M A DIABETIC"--

SHEEEEST-- SHE AIN'T NO DIABETIC-- SHE AIN'T SWEET 'T ALL--









OH, GOD--
JACKIE--LISTEN--
PLEASE--

-- IF YOU
ONLY KNEW
WHY--

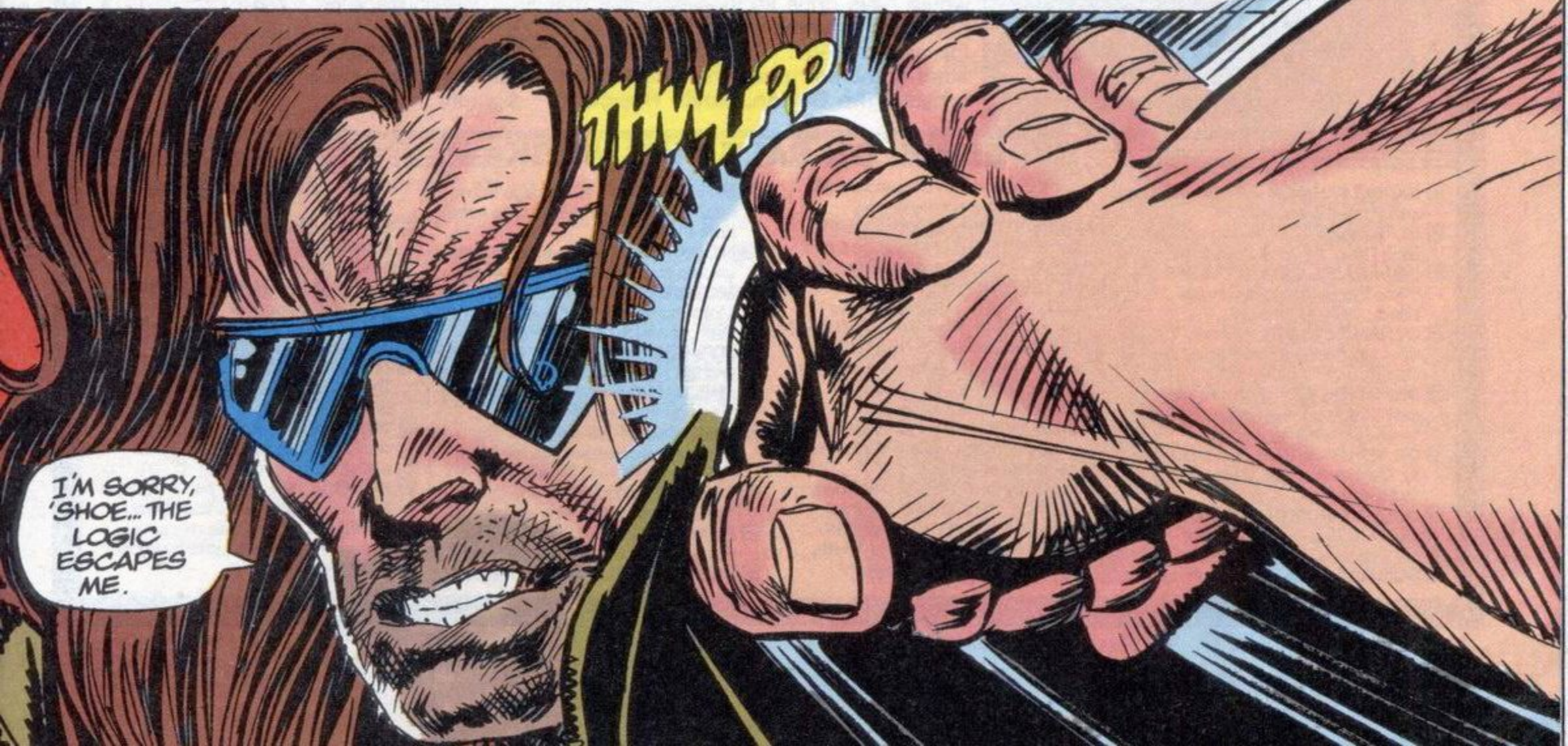
--YOU HAVE
TO KNOW
WHY--

'SHOE...
I'VE LEARNED
THAT WHY...

... NEVER SEEMS
TO MATTER ALL
THAT MUCH...









YOU HAVE TO STOP DOING THIS--

--STOP PUNISHING YOURSELF... STOP PUNISHING OTHERS.

I--I CAN'T--

YOU HAVE TO.



YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND, JACK...



I KNOW ALL ABOUT MAKING MISTAKES WHICH HURT OTHER PEOPLE, 'SHOE.

Y-YOU-- YOU DO--?

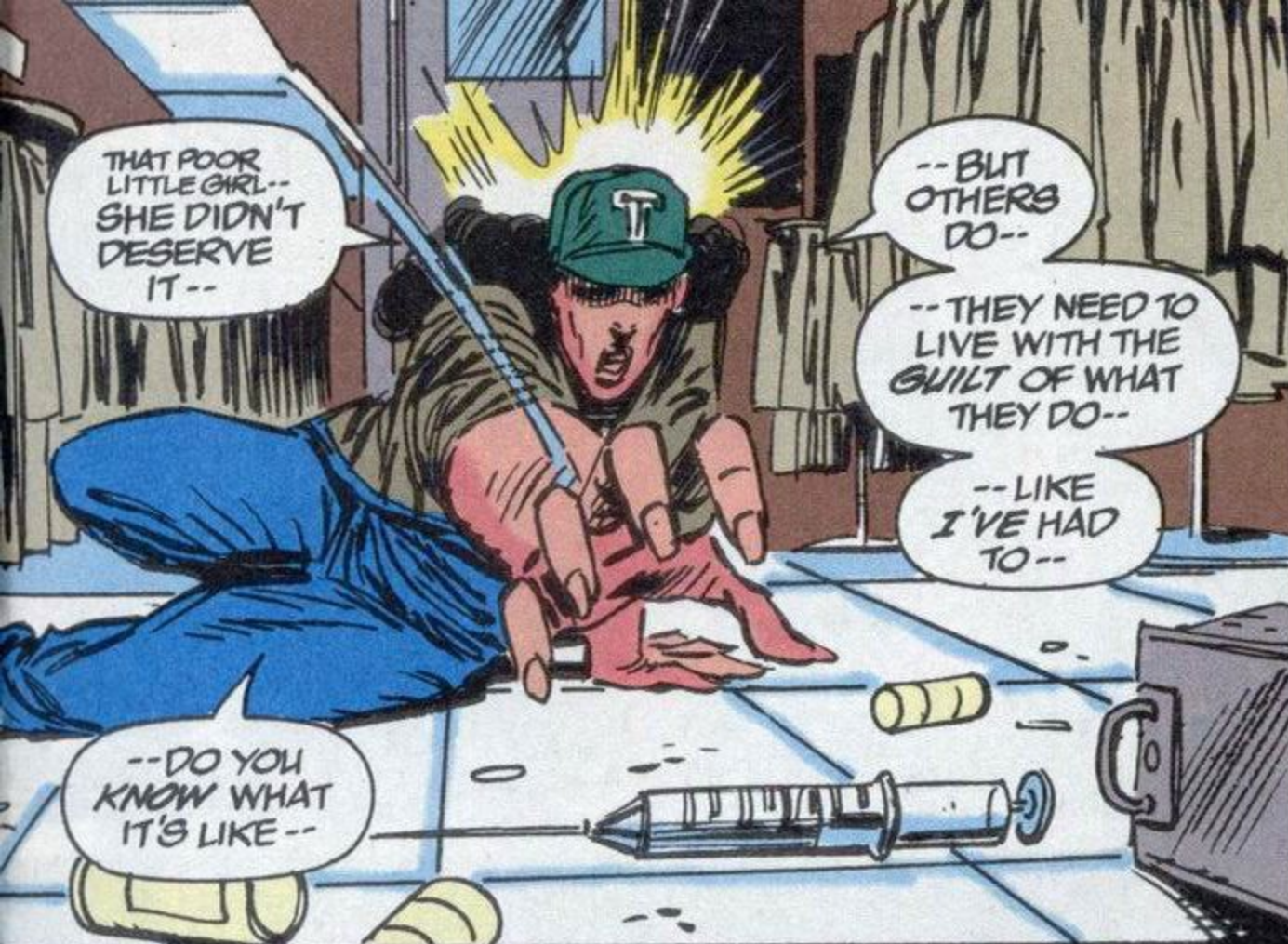


THE PERSON I INFECTED WAS A THREE-YEAR-OLD GIRL!!

SWAT

COULD YOU FORGIVE YOURSELF FOR THAT ?!

COULD YOU ?!



THAT POOR
LITTLE GIRL--
SHE DIDN'T
DESERVE
IT--

--BUT
OTHERS
DO--

--THEY NEED TO
LIVE WITH THE
GUILT OF WHAT
THEY DO--

--LIKE
I'VE HAD
TO--

--DO YOU
KNOW WHAT
IT'S LIKE--



--TO LIVE WITH
THE GUILT THAT
YOU KILLED
SOMEONE--?



YES.



AND YOU
CAN LIVE WITH
YOURSELF?



I--I DON'T
HAVE MUCH
CHOICE--DO
I?

NO, JACK--
THERE IS A
CHOICE--

NO--
DON'T!!



THSSSTT

IF I CAN'T TAKE
ANYONE ELSE,
JACK--THEN I'LL
TAKE MYSELF--

--IN A
YEAR...

...OR TWO...

...OR THREE...



AND ALL THE
HEARTBEATS
TO COME.



"HIDDEN IN VIEW" CONTINUES NEXT ISSUE!



BONUS!

THIS PULSE-POUNDING
PIN-UP WAS AN UNUSED
PIECE FOR OUR CLASSIC
"DEAD MAN'S HAND"
CROSSOVER BY
SCOTT MCDANIEL AND
KLAUS JANSON!

MCDANIEL
JANSON '92